SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

March 22, 2019 1:50 p.m. Room 224

In SUPPORT of SCR 31

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Ruderman and members of the committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **is in support** of SCR 31, which seeks to designate the Hawai'i State Capitol building and it's grounds as a single-use plastic free zone.

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i, is dedicated to protecting these unique and beautiful islands we call home. Part of our dedication to protect is to keep these valuable public areas free of pollution from plastics and other waste. In this case, we advocate for halting harmful plastic pollution at the source.

We are currently experiencing a plastic pollution epidemic here in Hawai'i. Single-use plastics pollute our lands and freshwater bodies, clog up drainage systems, harm wildlife and ultimately end up in our ocean waters--settling on our reefs and, in some places, creating massive large collections of trash, such as The Great Pacific Garbage Patch. The toxins and heavy chemicals found in plastics are not compostable or biodegradable and can take 500 years or more to decompose. They create an overabundance of waste that continually overflows local landfills and our beaches.

The transition away from single-use plastics is very possible and happening in many places around the world such as the pacific island nation of Vanuatu, The European Union, and numerous municipalities across the United States. By reducing single-use plastics at the state capitol, we can lead the way for others to follow, showing that it can be done and there are alternatives.

We urge the Committee to pass this measure, which will serve our collective efforts to keep Hawai'l free of plastic pollution as well as protect the health of our people. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in **support of SCR 31**.

Mahalo,

Lori Mallini, Volunteer, Sierra Club of Hawai'i

<u>SCR-31</u> Submitted on: 3/19/2019 4:34:11 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2019 1:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy Goeggel	Testifying for Animal Rights Hawai'i	Support	Yes

Comments:

This is a no-brainer !!

<u>SCR-31</u> Submitted on: 3/19/2019 5:28:21 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2019 1:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sylvia Dolena	Testifying for Pele Lani Farm LLC	Support	No

<u>SCR-31</u> Submitted on: 3/19/2019 7:20:15 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2019 1:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Natalie Parra	Testifying for Keiko Conservation	Support	No

<u>SCR-31</u> Submitted on: 3/21/2019 1:25:21 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2019 1:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicole Chatterson	Testifying for Zero Waste O?ahu	Support	No

<u>SCR-31</u> Submitted on: 3/19/2019 3:30:27 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2019 1:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ted Bohlen	Individual	Support	No

<u>SCR-31</u> Submitted on: 3/19/2019 3:54:05 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2019 1:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Cooper	Individual	Oppose	No

<u>SCR-31</u> Submitted on: 3/19/2019 5:16:01 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2019 1:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gillian Boss	Individual	Support	No

<u>SCR-31</u> Submitted on: 3/19/2019 6:31:40 PM

Testimony for AEN on 3/22/2019 1:50:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryuko Miura	Individual	Support	No